

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Anderson Presbyterian Church

other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number 899 Steam Mill Ferry Road NA ☐ not for publication

city or town Madison Hall NA ☐ vicinity

stat Tennessee code TN county Madison code 113 zip code 38301
e _____

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register

☐ removed from the National
Register.

☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Madison County, Tennessee
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

buildings

sites

structures

objects

1

0

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: gable front

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK, CONCRETE

walls Weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☒ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** moved from its original location.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1894, circa 1957-8

Significant Dates

1894

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Madison County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.8 acres Jackson South 438 SE

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 330259 3936738
Zone Easting Northing
2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing
4 _____
☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Hubert H. Williams/church elder and Claudette Stager/Historic Preservation Specialist
organization Anderson Presbyterian Church/THC date September 2006
street & number 1880 Steam Mill Ferry Road/2941 Lebanon Road telephone 731/424-1399; 615/532-1550
city or town Jackson/Nashville state TN zip code 38301/37214

Additional Documentation

submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Anderson Presbyterian Church, c/o Hubert H. Williams, church elder
street & number 1880 Steam Mill Ferry Road telephone 731/424-1399
city or town Jackson state TN zip code 38301

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

DESCRIPTION

The Anderson Presbyterian Church is located in a rural part of Madison County, in the unincorporated community of Madison Hall, and just southeast of Jackson, Tennessee. Completed in 1894, the church is located on a slight rise near the back of a 2.8-acre lot and surrounded by mature trees and small bushes. The frame weatherboard church has a gable front form, rectangular plan, and an enclosed vestibule. It appears that the original brick pier foundation was infilled with concrete blocks around the mid-twentieth century. Simple in design, the church features large four-over-four double-hung windows and an incised geometric design on the eaves. The interior of the church retains historic pews and woodwork and has 1950s lighting and wall covering.

The south façade is composed of the one-story gable roof main building and the slightly shorter gable-roof vestibule. Modern brick steps, one of the few alterations to the building, lead to historic double-leaf paneled doors. A double light transom rests over the doors, both surrounded by simple molded wood trim. Four-over-four double-hung windows flank the vestibule. Windows here and on the elevations have plain wood surrounds except for the molded wood crown. Low shrubs hide some of the foundation at the façade. Behind the shrubbery, at the southwest corner of the building is the cornerstone. The façade part of the cornerstone reads ANDERSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH while the west elevation side of the cornerstone is incised with ERECTED A.D. 1894. The most interesting part of the façade is the incised trim on the raking cornice of the gable end, forming a narrow bargeboard. On the vestibule, four evenly spaced lines, resulting in a design resembling a triglyph, are interspersed with four lines with an "x" marked over it. The design on the taller gable is similar except that the lines are not evenly spaced. Here, two lines are split by a somewhat larger space.



On the west elevation of the main body of the building there are four evenly spaced four-over-four double-hung windows that are the same as the façade windows. Instead of the incised design found on the gable, this elevation and the east elevation have exposed rafters. Rafters are sawn in a geometric pattern, showing the same attention to detail as the façade trim. A modern HVAC system has been placed on this side. North of the main part of the church is a circa 1958 addition. The gable roof weatherboard addition is on a concrete block foundation, has one two-over-two horizontal light window, and is lower than the main church building. Because of the rise in the land, it appears to be on a raised basement.



The east elevation is the same as the west.

The north rear elevation is dominated by the 1958 addition. A single leaf door below a gable roof stoop, leads into the addition. Concrete steps and a modern railing lead up to the entry. Two two-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

over-two horizontal light windows are to the east of the door and there is a vent in the gable. One four-over-four double-hung window is seen on the main building. Although the gable's raking cornice looks the same as that on the façade, it does not have the incised work.

The interior of the 1894 Anderson Presbyterian Church is composed of the vestibule, two small classrooms, and the sanctuary. Two additional rooms and ceiling lights were added circa 1958. Dark stained wood wainscoting lines the vestibule. Circa 1957 paneling covers the walls above the wainscoting. The floor is carpet over the original wood flooring. Steps lead up to two sets of double leaf paneled doors, which provide entry to the sanctuary. Molded wood with decorative corner blocks surround the doors.



Like the vestibule, woodwork in the sanctuary and the two classrooms has been stained. Located west and east of the doors are the two small classrooms, accessible from the sanctuary. Each has two windows, circa 1957 paneling, and carpeted floors. The sanctuary ceiling is formed by a series of 2' x 10' rafters, resulting in a barrel-like vault or hip roof. This ceiling is covered with circa 1957 acoustical tiles, most walls have circa 1957 paneling, and the floors are carpet over the original wood. The pulpit area, podium, and pews are original to the church. Pews have an open back of two wood slats and are embellished on the sides with wood roundels and cartouches. One wood step leads to the five-sided pulpit area. Behind the pulpit the wall is covered with circa 1957 wood-like paneling. Sanctuary lighting was updated in 1958 and consists of 300-watt indirect lighting fixtures that hang from the ceiling.

A single leaf door on the north wall of the sanctuary leads to what were originally two classrooms. Around 1958 a restroom and kitchen were added to one of these rooms. These rooms have vinyl flooring, wall board, and no decorative features.

A concrete walkway and paved parking area are located at the southern part of the lot, next to Steam Mill Ferry Road. The church is set back from the road on the partially wooded lot, enhancing its rural appearance. Constructed in 1894 and modernized in the 1950s, Anderson Presbyterian Church maintains its architectural integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Anderson Presbyterian Church is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C for its local significance in architecture. Located in the unincorporated community of Madison Hall, the building is an excellent example of a turn-of-the-century rural church building. Completed in 1894 and modernized in the late 1950s, the exterior of the building is characterized by its gable front vestibule, uncomplicated design, and symmetrically placed double-hung windows. Unusual incised detailing is found on the raking cornice and exposed rafters. Inside, the vault-like ceiling, wood trim, and original pews are character defining features. The building retains its integrity from both the 1890s and 1950s eras.

Following the 1818 treaty made with the Indian tribes for the land in West Tennessee, farmers, war veterans, surveyors, and others came to claim land for new homes. The frontier people moved in during the 1820s and 1830s, building roads and communities. Madison Hall, in the Eighth Civil District, only 4.5 miles from the new county seat of Jackson, developed into a good farming area by the land grant farmers who had served in previous wars. At one time called, Cerro Gordo, the name Madison Hall may derive from the building (gone) erected by the Grange, called Madison Hall.¹ The growing community had its trading post, or store, school, and sawmills. Some of the farmers had their own cotton gins.

Most transportation was by walking, buggy or wagon on primitive roads. The people of Madison Hall had to cross a mile of flooded river bottom and the South Fork of the Forked Deer River to reach the town of Jackson if they wanted to attend a Presbyterian church. There were periods when most water-soaked roads were impassible for days or weeks. The growing community felt the need for a church.

In the fall of 1893, Dr. W. A. Anderson, minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, was invited to meet and preach to a group of people in the Madison Hall school building. After a few Sunday meetings, a committee of nine was formed to plan the building of a Presbyterian church. On December 9, 1893, J. A. Sweeney and Henry Robinson each gave more than one acre of land in a beautiful, wooded plot for the church's location. The cornerstone, filled with information, was laid in the early spring of 1894. The existing building was built by church members and community neighbors at a cost of less than \$1,000. It was named Anderson Presbyterian Church in honor of Dr. Anderson. The church building is not representative of high style or the work of master builders; rather, it exemplifies architecture of necessity and is the result of communal efforts and the use of available materials.

Anderson Presbyterian Church always used visiting pastors or "supply pastors" from other churches. Records show that thirty-two pastors have served at the church from the 1890s to the 1990s. In 1917 church membership reached seventy-three members. Membership was similar in

¹ Emma Inman Williams, *Historic Madison: The Story of Jackson and Madison County Tennessee From the Prehistoric Moundbuilders to 1917* (Jackson, TN: Jackson Service League, 1972), 51.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

1922, with sixty-seven resident communicants and nine non-resident communicants. The annual report for that year recorded \$182.00 collected for benevolent funds with expenses incurred including \$175.00 for the pastor's salary.² Services included Sunday school each Sunday morning and preaching services on the third Sunday afternoon of the month. During the fall of each year, a week of revival meetings was held at the church. The preacher was the (then current) pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Jackson. Anderson Presbyterian Church was built and maintained by the local congregation but it had a contract with the ministers of the Jackson church to supply ministers. While church records are not complete, there is no mention of the members of the congregation taking out loans for major improvements or changes to the building. The church has always been a small, local, family-based congregation.

Similar to other rural areas, the church building was occasionally used for different functions. For example, Anderson Presbyterian Church provided use of its building to the local Baptist congregation for almost four years while they planned and built a new church. From 1919 to 1922, the Baptist congregation held services in Anderson Presbyterian Church on Sunday afternoons. A report about Anderson Presbyterian's services on August 21, 1927 showed that W. T. McMaster gave the invocation, forty-two people attended church, thirty-nine went to Sunday school, the total offering was \$2.22, and the weather was "fair-cool."³ Modern means of transportation, paved roads across the community, and the coming of industrial plants in larger cities nearby, all drew people away from Madison Hall and attendance at Anderson Presbyterian declined. By the 1950s, few of the families of the original church members remained in the area. Quarterly summaries of attendance for 1958 show an average of twenty to twenty-five people attending Sunday services and offerings were about \$25.00 each Sunday.⁴ Another contributor to the Anderson Church membership decline was the Presbyterian General Assembly's decision to change certain rules in the Book of Church Order, some having to do with ownership of church property.

Despite declining church membership, the congregation stayed involved in the limited growth and development of Madison Hall. More than a century after first sharing a building, the local Baptist church and Anderson Presbyterian, located just across the road from each other, still hold joint services on special occasions. Records show that the congregation membership had declined to twenty-seven active members and a dozen inactive members by May 1967.⁵ Beginning in the 1970s, Anderson Presbyterian Church contracted directly with ministers and supply pastors, a practice continued today. Of the six active members of the congregation, three are descendants of original church members. There are also five inactive members and two associate members.⁶ Although membership is small, church records show that it has remained steady over the last

² Figures come from records in the possession of Hubert Williams, a descendant of John Calvin Robinson.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Op cit.

⁵ Op cit.

⁶ Elder Diane Lassiter Harris is the granddaughter of Elder J.H. Lassiter (188-1950); Secretary Mary Virginia Rankin is the granddaughter of James A. Sweeney (1856-1908) who gave land for the church; Elder Hubert Williams is a great grandson of John Calvin Robinson (1837-1894), a charter member who helped build the church.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

twenty-five years.

The church rests in a rural landscape featuring an untouched, natural, wooded area in a caring community of family farmers and working people. In a significant way, it represents the heart of the community and culture of the people who helped build and maintain it. Continuing devotion, commitment to God, community and country are standards for which this venerable institution still stands. Anderson Presbyterian Church commemorates many events in the community's history. As the Madison Hall community is transformed into a predominately residential area, the church looks forward to membership growth. There are no other unaltered historic buildings in the community. The church will continue to offer the community a unique facility for worship services and special occasions.

Only one other church in Madison County is individually listed in the National Register. The 1854 Denmark Presbyterian Church was listed in 1983 as an example of Greek Revival architecture. The frame, weatherboard building is two stories and has a gable front form with an inset porch. It is much different in scale and detailing from the Anderson Presbyterian Church.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 6

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Deed and miscellaneous records for Anderson Presbyterian Church. In the possession of Hubert Williams.

First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, Tennessee. Church records.

Tennessee Room, Jackson-Madison County Library, Jackson, Tennessee. Various documents.

Williams, Emma Inman. *Historic Madison: The Story of Jackson and Madison County Tennessee From the Prehistoric Moundbuilders to 1917*. Jackson, TN: Jackson Service League, 1972.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 7

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Anderson Presbyterian Church is located on map 110, parcel 001.00 on Steam Mill Ferry Road. The 2.8 acres are all the property associated with the church.

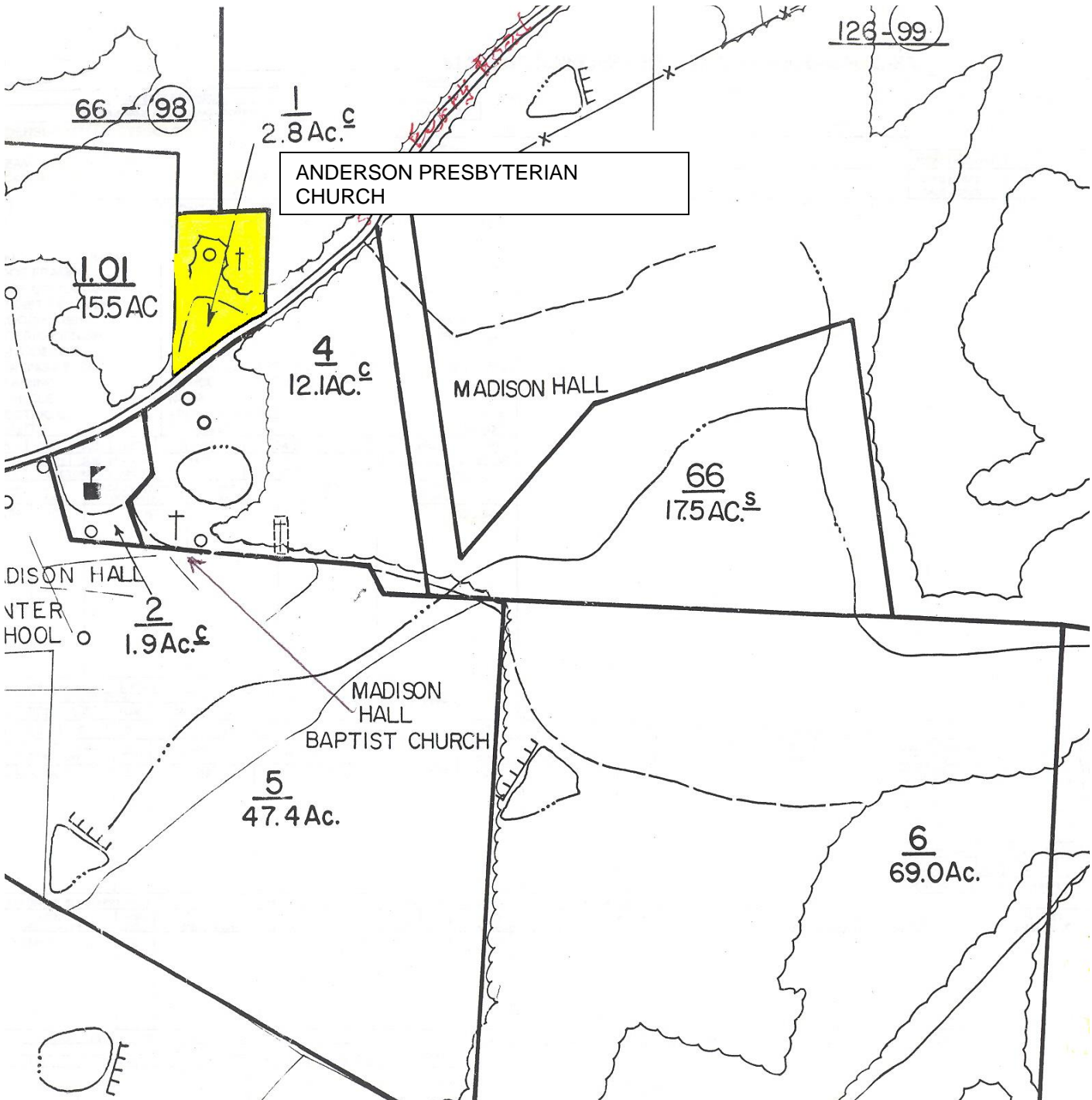
The map scale is 1" = 400', the only scale available for most rural areas of the state.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 8

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 9

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo by: Claudette Stager and Louis Jackson
Date: June 2006
Negatives/digital images: Tennessee Historical Commission

South façade, west elevation, and setting, facing northeast
#1 of 16

South façade, facing north
#2 of 16

South façade and west elevation, facing northeast
#3 of 16

West elevation, facing northeast
#4 of 16

North elevation, facing south
#5 of 16

East and north elevations, facing southwest
#6 of 16

Detail of connection between 1894 church and 1958 addition, facing southwest
#7 of 16

Detail of bargeboard trim on façade, facing north
#8 of 16

Detail of window on elevation
#9 of 16

Detail of eave treatment on elevation
#10 of 16

Vestibule of church, facing east
#11 of 16

Sanctuary, facing northeast
#12 of 16

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 10

Anderson Presbyterian Church
Madison County, Tennessee

Sanctuary, facing south
#13 of 16

Sanctuary, facing southwest
#14 of 16

Window in front classroom
#15 of 16

1958 addition, facing northeast
#16 of 16